an Illinois Friend. In writing to Mr. T. Hawkyard, of Rockford, Ill., Mr. G. Simpkins, of Leduc, Alberta, Western Canada (and to which points especially low rates are being quoted over all lines of rail-

Dear Sir:-Rec'd your letter the 14th inst. We have had no snow till after Christmas and the cattle have been able to live out, and are all in good condition. It is snowing now. That is what we want; have about 6 inches now. The old settlers say when we have lots of snow it means a good crop the coming season. It never drifts here. The weather is calm and bright. We do not have to dress any heavier than in Illinois, and the horses never shiver with the cold when we take them from the warm stables, as they do in Illinois. It has not frozen in the stable this winter. The most of the stock runs out, but there is no need of it, for timber is plentiful and there is no expense to build good stables and houses. We have good log houses and they are very warm. Two men can put up a house 16x24 in two days. There are good rails for fences. live ten miles from the coal district, the price being from 50 cents up 10 \$2.00. The land is a very rich, loamy soil, from 6 inches to several feet in depth; the hills have the deepest. It is a rolling country, and excellent for stock of all kinds. Sheep do well, and there are plenty of small lakes where the cattle can get good water. The cattle got out of grass last year, about the middle of April, and run at large; unless in charge of a herdsman, we have to fence against them. Wheat goes from 35 to 60 bushels per acre, oats 80 to 90, very often over a hun-As to potatoes, a neighbor planted 7 bushels and dug 226 bushels and no bugs. Roots of all kinds do well. There are lots of strawberries and lots of red raspberries, black and red currants, and gooseberries, where the fire has not burnt them. Cattle are scarce. I have been trying to buy some for 8 months and have got only three two-year-old, and paid \$30 each. Hogs are scarce, but can be got. They sell for 6 cents dressed, and cost more for stockers. Wheat 50 cents per bu., oats 25 cents, eggs 30 cents a dozen, butter 15 and 20 cents, poultry was 10 and 11 cents dressed. Sheep are scarce. If you come, bring your farm tools, but bring no seeders; we use drills. Bring cows, but do not bring horses unless you are an experienced hand in shipping them, for so many of them are hurt in shipping. There will be plenty of work for a binder. Two good horses will break, but three lighter are better. The horses you get here can work without grain, but are better with it. It will be hard to tell what prices horses will be, for the immigration will be very large the coming spring. They could be had last spring at one time. They claim the best time to break is June, but my experience is to break in the spring and work it. You can break till the middle of July.

An Evidence of Prosperity.

It is generally conceded by economists, who study the commercial situation of the country, that the great arteries of railway travel are a sure indication of its condition. A depression in commercial lines means abandoned business trips and the cancellation of pleasure travel, while a healthy condition of affairs means business trips and an increase of passengers on pleasure bent.

A good evidence that a business revival has gone broadcast over this country is the "Lake Shore Limited," the star train of the Vanderbilt system, between New York and Chicago, which is daily comfortably filled. With a view to taking the best possible care of its patrons, the New York Central has arranged to increase the equipment of this train by placing an additional standard sleeper on the trains leaving New York and Chicago Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. To the regular traveler the appointments and comforts of this train are well known, but if you have never made a trip on it, you owe it to yourself to see and enjoy the advance made in comfort and luxury in modern railway travel. Remember the fare is no higher on this train, except between New York and Chicago, while the accommodations and service place this particular train conspicuously at the head of the list, when compared with other lines.-Albany Journal.

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OWNER. 509 Paxton Block, Omaha.

The News Briefly

Saturday.

Havana exports of tobacco during February aggregated 13,448 bales, The United States transport Connemaugh has arrived at Honolulu, carry-

ing mules for Manila. A reception was tendered General Douglas at Havana Friday night as a farewell. Several hundred members | It is reported that Myron T. I of the Seventh corps were present.

Captain James McQueen Forsythe, who has been recovering in the naval hospital in Philadelphia from a severe illness received word from Washington of his appointment to the cruiser Baltimore now in the Philip-

Robert J. Burdette, the humorist, and Mrs. Clara B. Baker were married at Pasadena, Cal. Mr. and Mrs. Burdette will make their future home in Pasadena, where the humorist will fill the pulpit of the First Presbyterian Church.

The Berlin correspondent of the Morning Post says: In their desire to effect friendly settlement of the Samoan difficulty, the German officers have decided to discontinue their support at Mataafa, hoping that this will induce the United States to recall Chief Justice Chambers.

The United States cruiser New York and the gunboats Vicksburg and Annapolis arrived in Santiago. Rear Admiral Sampson, accompanied by Captain F. E. Chadwick, called upon Major General Leonard Wood, the military governor, a salute being fired in honor of the admiral.

President McKinley spent a quiet and restful Sunday at Thomasville, Ga., attending to no business save a few arrangements for the return trip to Washington, and listening to what Postmaster General Emory Smith had to say of his observations of conditions in Cuba. The weather was very warm, the thermometer registering 85 degrees, but a breeze was blowing.

Colonel Henry C. Egbert, whom General Otis reports among the killed, was born in Pennsylvania and ap-pointed a first lieutenant in the army from civil life on September 23, 1861. He served continuously as a line officer for nearly forty years. He was more closely identified with the Twelfth infantry than any other organization, having served with distinctfon in that regiment during the civil war.

Monday.

The Fifteenth Minnesota has been mustered out at Augusta, Ga.

M. Delcasse has presented the Anglo-French-African convention to the French chamber of deputies.

The American Telephone company of New York has increased its capital from \$25,000,000 to \$75,000,000. The state department has received

word from Honduras that no Americans are arresetd there, as reported. Minister Loomis, at Venzuela, reports many opportunities there for American investors and manufactur-

General Royal T. Frank, assigned to the command of the department of the Gulf, is exected at Atlanta Wednesday night.

The order of a British railroad to the Baltimore locomotive works for twenty engines is exciting much comment in the British press.

It is reported that the Baldwin locomotive works has received orders for a number of engines to be used in

India and Australia. The Minnesota protest against the censure passed on the Fifteenth Minnesota regiment has ben sent to Washington by Governor Lind.

Lieutenant Wells, commanding the naval recruiting station at Chicago, will enlist an unlimited number of first-class machinists for Dewey's fleet at Manila.

Brigadier General Pennington, recently mustered out of the volunteer service, expects soon to resume command of his former regiment, the Sec-

ond artillery, at Havana. Canadian and New Yoork capitalists have organized a corporation to exhibit the Yukon resources at the Paris exposition. Among the exhibits will be \$5,000,000 in old dust and nuggets.

The extradition warrant for Mrs. Ingersoll and John Collins, alleged abductors of Geraid Lapiner of Chicago, has reached Painesville, O., but service is delayed by habeas corpus proceedings.

The paymaster's department of the army has decided that volunteers who enlisted prior to the act of April 26 are not entitled to extra pay, even though promised it by the published notices to recruits.

Tuesday.

Henry B. Cooper has been sworn in as attorney general for Hawaii. Today's statement of the condition of the treasury shows: Available cash balance, \$282,010,686; gold reserve, \$242,802,766.

The reception given Secretary Alger at Havana on his arrival was attended by a large corps of American and Cu-

The failure of congress to pass legislation for Hawaii has caused the loading of an immense number of vessels with sugar for the United States.

Among supplies upon which bids are received at the New York navy yard are 60,000 pounds of cannned corned beef and 50,000 pounds of canned roast

The Ingo-Egyptian Compress company is the latest thing in trusts from New Jersey. It will control the manufacture of cotton compresses. Capital, \$15,000,000.

Health Commissioner Fritzsche of Rochester, N. Y., reports that beef cut in small pieces and packed in barrels is being shipped into Rochester for sausage beef. An inspection will be

The will of Joseph Medill, late editor or the Tribune, was filed in the probate court & Chicago. The estate, which is estimated ... about \$2,000,000 net, is bequeathed in equal shares to his two daughters, Mrs. Robert W. Patterson and Mrs. Robert S. McCormick. The Tribune ctock is left in trust to Robert W. Patterson, Robert S. Mc-Cormick and William G. Beale, who are given full power to vote and manage or sell as the majority may decide. A. M. Wilson of Pittsburg.

Secretary Alger has gone to Clenfue-

gos from Havana. Allentown, Pa., rolling mills will make a slight increase in wages April 1. The Indiana supreme court holds that if a man marries a woman who

It is reported that Myron T. Herrick has been offered the presidency of the Wheeling & Lake Erie, when it is reorganized, but declines,

Funeral services were held at Chicago over the remains of the late Bishop Dugan, who died at St. Louis. Interment was in Calvary cemetery.

Commander J. M. Forsythe has been assigned to the command of the Baltimore, now on the Manila station, vice Captain Dyer, who has been invalided

Suit has been brought against William Martindale, Emporia, Kas., for \$166,000, claims growing out of the failure of the First National bank of Em-Surgeon General Sternberg received

mail reports from Manila concerning hospital and medical affairs there. In the main they dealt with routine matters and showed satisfactory conditions prevailing. A Filipino commissioner to negoti-

ate for the release of the Spanish prisoners in the hands of the Filipinos arrived in Madrid. The cabinet has de-cided to sell the transports Rapido, Meteoro and Patriota.

The commissions of the large number of postmasters appointed by the president since the adjournment of congress will be signed at once by the president and postmaster general. These have accumulated to the number of about 150 and the appointees have been querying the postoffice department on their status.

The six additional mountain guns asked for by General Otis a short time ago are now on their way to Manila. These guns are two-pounders, and can be taken anywhere that mules or men can go. General Otis had eight of these guns, besides four guns of the Astor battery. The latter, however, are twelve-pounders and much heavier to handle.

Thursday.

Baroness Hirsch, widow of the Hebrew philanthropist, is critically ill at

Lieutenant Whittlesey has been selected as Admiral Howlson's flag lieutenant.

The rebels of Bolivia are credited with capturing the important city of Cochabamba.

Spain has secured a credit of \$13,-656,000 for the payment of interest on the Cuban debt.

Advertisements are ordered for bids for 24,000 tons of armor plate, to be opened May 31. Germans are to hold a big meeting

at Chicago to protest against an Anglo-American alliance. The census office appeals to people

to cease applying for jobs. None will be given out for several months. American Glass shut down all its factories at Pitts-

burg, indefinitely wing to a strike of its men. Ambassador Cambon has presented to President McKinley an autograph

letter from President Loubet of France announcing his election. Attorney General Monnett of Ohio decides that manufacturers of liquor in other states must pay taxes on all

liquor sold in Ohio by them during the last thirteen years. The Marine Review issues a warning that the buying up of steamers by the steel trust means an intent to

not only control prices, but transportation of ore. The Missouri house passed a bill making the contract rate of interest 7 per cent, a reduction from 8. The bill provides also that property sold under

mortgage for a note satisfies the debt The London Daily Graphic announces that the Marquis of Salisbury has approved the draft of the convention lealing with the British and Russian spheres of influence in China and that

the convention awaits the signature. At a meeting of the directors of the Pan-American exposition Buffalo Colonel John Weber was appointed commissioner general of the exposition at a salary of \$6,000 per annum. Mr. Weber will leave at once for Washington, where he will institute relations with the diplomatic representatives, particularly with the South and Central American countries.

Friday. Ex-Secretary Sherman continues to improve steadily and last night was

resting comfortably. The transport Logan has arrived at Savannah with the One Hundred and

Sixty-first Indiana volunteers. It was stated at the war department that the provision of the army law allowing the retention in service for six months of the volunteers in the Philippines has been construed to mean the officers as well as the men, and that the volunteer organizations

would be retained just as they now Lieutenant Fred S. Perry, who is reported as wounded in the recent fight near Malolos, is with Company E of Boulder, Colo. He is 22 years of age and gave his vocation as a student. He was promoted only a few days ago to first lieutenant. His nearest relative is given as J. M. Perry of Joliet, Ill.

The transport Logan has broken the record, making a trip in ninety hours from Savannah to Havana, loading the One Hundred and Sixty-first Indiana and reaching Savannah ahead of the quarantine.

Captain William J. Watson of the Twentieth Kansas regiment, injured at Malolos, enlisted at his home in Pittsburg, Kan., under the original call for troops. He went in as a first ileutenant in Company D and was afterward promoted to be captain of Company E. He is 26 years of age, a lawyer by profession and a graduate of the law department of the State university. His nearest relative is



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